

REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-23 are pending.

There are no outstanding formal matters.

Claims 1-23 stand rejected as anticipated by RUBIN 6,108,365.

As per the FIELD OF THE INVENTION specification section, the present invention relates to a message reception device and a message reception method for deciding the timing for delivering a received message to a user based on the user's current position.

The present invention provides selected messages, e.g., e-mails with a valid geographic position range, that are received and are temporarily stored in a message storage unit. A message delivery assessment unit periodically (Figure 7, step 34) compares the valid geographic position range specified by stored messages with a current geographic position (obtained by a positioning unit). In this way, the invention determines if the message reception device is currently within the valid geographic position range specified by any of the stored messages. When the user is within any of the specified valid geographic position ranges, a message delivery unit delivers the corresponding message to a user. As a result, the message reception device can deliver the messages appropriate (valid) to a current geographic

position of the user.

Thus, the invention advantageously receives and stores messages, e.g., e-mails, so that the messages can be delivered at a time when the message device is in an appropriate geographic location. In this way messages can be received and stored and if, at a first time, the current geographic position is determined to be outside the stored valid geographic position range of each stored message, no stored message is delivered. However, if at a later second time, upon the current geographic position being determined to be within one of the stored valid geographic position ranges, the corresponding one of the stored messages is delivered to the user.

The prior art does not teach or suggest such a system.

In contrast to the present invention, RUBIN discloses a set-top GPS data access system wherein (see Abstract) an integrated receiver decoder (IRD), commonly called a set-top box, has a global positioning system (GPS) receiver. The GPS receiver checks to see if the IRD is at an authorized location and allows descrambling of video signals only if the location is authorized. The set-top box serves as a customer access control and establishes different geographic restrictions on different of various video or data signals. Location-specific signals require that the set-top box be at a single fixed location for descrambling.

RUBIN does not disclose application to e-mails.

Although RUBIN does teach location-specific signals being decoded, RUBIN does not teach or suggest the concept of storing the message content and then, at regular time intervals, assessing whether the message device is within a position geographic range where if at a first time the device is not within the position geographic range the message is not delivered, but at a second, later time the device is within the valid position geographic range the message is then delivered.

The invention also provides time messages have limited delivery times. Put another way (see claim 5), in the invention, **after each time interval**, the assessment means assesses whether the current geographic position is within the geographic position range in order to deliver the identified message as long as the delivery time limit is not exceeded, but after the time limit is exceeded, the assessment means discontinues assesses whether the current geographic position is within the geographic position range.

In view of the above, applicant respectfully submits that the presently-presented claims are patentable over the prior art. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance of all the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early indication of the same is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

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